

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LILONG 01409 061047Z
ACTION AF-10

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FOR ACTING ASST. SECRETARY HARROP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, XA
SUBJECT: FY 79 AND FY80 BUDGETED ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICA

REF: STATE 224147

1. REFTTEL IS CONFUSING AS IT PERTAINS TO MALAWI.
WE ARE IN PROCESS OF RESUMING AID PROGRAM TO MALAWI
AND HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED AID/W'S APPROVAL OF THE
PID'S ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND THE POLYTECHNIC
(ENGINEERING COLLEGE). AID/W HAS PROPOSED
THAT AG RESEARCH PROJECT COMMENCE FY 79 AND POLYTECHNIC
IN FY80, ALTHOUGH WE WOULD PREFER THAT POLYTECHNIC
COMMENCE FY 79 ALSO IN ORDER TO COINCIDE WITH
INPUTS FROM OTHER DONORS (BRITISH AND EEC). FY 79
WILL BE LAST YEAR OF INPUT FOR BUNDA COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE, PHASE III, WHICH HAS BEEN HIGHLY
SUCCESSFUL AND VISIBLE PROJECT ORIGINALLY DATING
FROM MALAWI'S INDEPENDENCE IN 1964.

2. WE HAD HOPED THAT, ASSUMING POLYTECHNIC PROJECT
COULD BEGIN FY 79, FOLLOWING FUNDS WOULD BE
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AVAILABLE FOR FY 79 AND FY 80:

PROJECT	FY 79	FY 80
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A. BUNDA	\$805,000	NIL
B. AG RESEARCH	2.7 MILLION	\$1.7 MILLION
C. POLYTECHNIC	\$1.5 MILLION	\$1.4 MILLION

D. TOTAL \$4.0 MILLION \$3.1 MILLION

3. REFTEL SHOWS \$5 MILLION AVAILABLE IN FY 79 FOR MALAWI FOR BOTH DA AND SSA AND NO FUNDS FOR FY-80 FOR EITHER. THESE FIGURES DO NOT CORRESPOND WITH FIGURES IN PRECEDING PARAGRAPH NOR IN ABS PREPARED BY OSARAC. MOREOVER, I WILL BE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED, AS WILL GOM, IF NO FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR MALAWI IN FY 80.

4. RE PARA 4E ON SSA FOR MALAWI, IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT "TOKEN FINANCING OF A FEW ON-GOIN ACTIVITIES AT THE 'MINIMUM' SSA LEVEL" MEANS IN VIEW OF THE \$5 MILLION FOR SSA IN FY 79 LISTED IN PARA 4A (REFTEL). IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT NO NEW US-GOM PROJECT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED SINCE 1976, NEW US ASSISTANCE OF \$5 MILLION WILL BE LOOKED UPON AS A SIGNIFICANT RESUMPTION BUT IT WILL BE CONFUSING TO ALL CONCERNED IF NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE ALLOCATED IN FY80. MOREOVER, WE HAVE BEEN PRESSING GOM TO COME UP WITH SOME PROPOSALS IN THE HEALTH SECTOR WHICH BADLY NEEDS ADDITIONAL INPUTS AND WE WILL HAVE REGIONAL AID HEALTH ADVISER HERE NEXT WEEK TO ASSIST. HEALTH, RURAL WATER AND MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT ARE POTENTIAL PROJECTS WE HAVE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH WITH GOM BECAUSE THEY WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RURAL POOR, WOULD BE HIGHLY VISIBLE, WOULD INVOLVE MINIMUM OF CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND WOULD NOT BE EXCESSIVE IN COST (SEE ABS).

5. AS FOR IMETP, WE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE STARTED TRAINING FOR ONE OFFICER IN FY 80 IN ORDER TO ENHANCE OUR STANDING WITH MALAWI ARMY.

6. OVERLALL, FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF REFTEL IS NECESSARY IF MORE EXTENSIVE ASSESSMENT IS DESIRED. IN THE MEANTIME, I CAN ONLY SAY THAT GOM WILL BE SEVERELY DISAPPOINTED IF ONLY "TOKEN FINANCING" (DOES THAT MEAN ONLY SMALL PART OF FUNDS REQUESTED?) IS AVAILABLE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND POLY-TECHNIC. WE WILL BE SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSED TO HAVE TO EXPLAIN THIS TO GOM IN VIEW OF RECENT PID APPROVALS.

SHEINBAUM

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